State of the Municipality and the 2017/2018 Budget Speech delivered by the Mayor of Makhado Municipality- Her Worship Cllr S.M Sinyosi at the Dzanani Community Hall on the 02nd June 2017.

Vision

A dynamic hub for socio - economic development By 2025

Mission

To ensure effective utilization of economic resources to address socio economic imperatives through mining, tourism

Follow us on:	facebook	Makhado Local Municipality
	twitter	Makhado Municip1

Introductions

Hon. Madam Speaker of Makhado Municipality- Cllr L.B Mogale

Hon Chief Whip of Makhado Municipality- Cllr M.D Mboyi

MEC for Health- Dr Phophi Ramathuba

MEC for Public Works- Transport and Infra Structure- Vho Jerry Ndou

Khosi-Khulu Vho-Toni Mphephu Ramabulana

Tihosi and misanda

Members of Legislature present

The Hon. Executive Mayor of Vhembe, Cllr Florence Radzilani

The Mayor of Musina Municipality

The Acting Mayor of Thulamela Municipality

The Acting Mayor of LIM 345

Members of the Executive Committee, Chief Whips and Speakers from sister municipalities

Chairperson of MPAC- Cllr

The Commanding Officer from the Makhado Airforce Base

Our Station Commanders from the SAPS

Chairperson of the Audit Committee and Members of the Audit Committee present

Chairperson of the Risk Committee and members present

Ward and PR Councillors

Municipal Manager, Directors of Makhado Municipality

Senior Managers and Officials from Municipalities and Sector Departments

Management Representative from the University of Venda and TVET Colleges present

Leaders of Business, Faith-Based Organizations and Community Organizations

Comrades, Leadership of the ANC and other political Organizations

Stalwarts and Veterans of our struggle

Leadership of Women, and Youth, Disabled Committees and Forums

This afternoon, we are also joined by our Ambassador Against HIV and AIDS Vho Fhatalushaka Ramasala

I extend a special and warm welcome to my special guests from Rivoni Society for the Blind

Friends, Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

INHLEKANI, NDI MASIARI, GOOD AFTERNOON,

It is both an honour and a privilege for me to address this important gathering on the occasion of presenting the State of the Municipality combined with the 2017/2018 Budget for the Makhado Municipality.

Madame Speaker,

Before we proceed with the address,

Let us all rise and take a moment of silence in honor of our employees passed away in the line of duty. Let us also honor the Councilors who passed away in the last few months and to pay our respect to their families for the loss they endured.

Amongst them is Cllr Jackie Underwood and Cllr Queen Ratshivhombela. They are women, mothers and leaders who chose to serve their communities with the highest sense of pride and dedication.

They served our people with revolutionary commitment and selflessness and they will be solely missed by all of us. Let us also take the opportunity to remember one of our own, Comrade Thandabantu, who has served the Council of Makhado Municipality with extraordinary passion and love for his people.

Let us take a moment to remember Vhavenda Vho Lesley Ramabulana who recently passed away.

Madame Speaker,

June Month is Youth Month and as Council we take pride in our young people and acknowledge their complex and extra ordinary interests and expectations of society.

We acknowledge their determination to confront the demanding socio political and economic reality that faces them on a daily basis, which includes poverty, unemployment, HIV and AIDS, crime and violence, alcohol and drug abuse.

The youth of today, like the generation of 1976 must promise us that our struggle for freedom and democracy was not in vain and that they will embrace, defend and advance our constitutional democracy and quest for a developmental.

To demonstrate our appreciation and love to our youth, we are joined today by a group of young warriors, who represented Makhado Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa and the continent of Africa during a global sporting event called Special Olympics held in Austria.

They are from Razwimisani Special School and play they are 2017 World Champions of Floor Hockey. They hail from the dusty streets of Kutama Sinthumule area. Ladies and gentleman let's all rise to welcome the World Floor Hockey Champions:

They are:

1) Malange Junior

2) Munasi Hulisani

3) Sasa Tshimangadzo

4) Mufamadi Mulalo

5) Phaswana Pfarelo

6) Khomola Dakalo

7) Maphalaphathwa Rudzani

8) Mashaba Kencilly

9) Livhusha Duncan

10) Ngwangwe Ipfi

11) Mufhadi Unarine

12) Murulana Thuso

13) Manenzhe Gudani

They were coached by Petlo Morongwa Winnie and the Assistant Coach is Thulare Selaelo Violet.

They could not have done it, without the support of the Principal, educators and their parents. We salute each one of you for believing in the TEAM.

We thank you for representing the people of Makhado at the World Special Olympics. You are our heroes; you have demonstrated high LEVELS of bravery and vigilance.

Like mighty warriors in battle, you outperformed your competitors; you stood your ground and invoked the Great Ancestral Spirits of Tshilwavhusiku Makhado Ramabulana.

We humbly welcome you and bestow you the highest honor as sports ambassadors of Makhado, Limpopo and Africa as a whole.

Madame Speaker,

This is the first State of the Municipality and Budget address since my inauguration as the Mayor of Makhado Municipality.

We mention this because our communities, through last year local government elections have made a clarion call to this ANC led Council, that we must respect them, involve them, consult them, report to them when we plan and execute our municipal integrated development plans and budgets.

We are here to present the political contract we made with the electorate and the people of Makhado as a whole, who deployed us to represent them in Council since August last year.

We are also here to critically reflect on the performance of the ANC led Council during 2015/2016 financial year but most importantly to map the way ahead for the next financial year.

Esteemed colleagues and guests- Our people want nothing less than improved, quality and sustainable services in line with the prescripts of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and other local government legislation.

Madame Speaker

We are hosting the State of the Municipality address at a time when our nation is at war with its children and women. The violence, brutal abuse of women and children has become a daily showcase on our media.

According to Africa Check- A research institution, they report that

“In 2015/2016, about 18673 murders were recorded, this marked a 4,9 increase from the previous year”. This simply means that there were nearly 34 murders per 100 000 people in the country.

They further report that “in 2015/2016 sexual offences were recorded at an average of 14,2 per day. The statistics from the SAPS reveal that 42 596 rapes were reported in 2015/2016”.

More disturbing is that a lot more sexual offenses are not reported and therefore they end up cold or not resolved at all.

On behalf of Council and the leadership collective, let me take this opportunity to condemn all forms of violence and abuse against women and children in our villages, townships and towns.

I appeal on all our Ward Councilors to work together with the local SAPS and other law enforcement agencies to revive and strengthen Community Policing Forums that will defend and protect our children and women. We must report all those involved in child and women kidnapping and trafficking.

Madame Speaker,

As a Municipality we are directly affected by this demonic and negative spiral affecting our society. During 2015/2016 financial our Municipality hosted more than 25 Interns who were placed in different sections to assist in rendering municipal services.

Amongst them was a young, beautiful, professional graduate, her name was Portia Rasilavhi, from Migavhini village. This young lady was exceptionally talented and her analytical mind distinguished her from the rest.

She was attached to the Performance Management Unit; she was responsible for compiling our municipal service delivery and performance reports. Portia had a Degree in Public Administration and an Honors Degree in Development Studies; she was a mother to a beautiful daughter of 4 years, she belonged to a caring family and friends.

Portia was hacked to death by his boyfriend and the suspect is still at large. This and many other unresolved cases point clearly mirror a nation at war with its women and children.

Society is being robbed of young and talented women who must be assets to society. We therefore appeal to all of you, to assist the police so that they apprehend the suspect and that justice must be served.

Portia's death must remind each one of us of the responsibility we have to protect our women and children.

May her soul and that of many unspoken girls, children and women who were brutally killed Rest in eternal Peace.

We are also highly concerned about the re-emergence of ritual murders in our communities. We appeal to all community stakeholders to work together to ensure that all those involved in thus inhumane forms of crimes are reported to the SAPS and that the law must take its course.

We appreciate the democratic right of community members to protest while expressing their service delivery needs and other concerns; however we condemn all forms of violence, intimidation and destruction of public and private property.

Madame Speaker,

The new Council of Makhado convened a successful Strategic Planning Workshop involving all Councilors and Senior Management held at Tshedza Conference Centre.

The purpose was to identify key areas of intervention and to map out a 5 year strategic plan that will guide Council in its efforts to improve the quality of lives of the people of Makhado Municipality.

The main outcome of the Strategic Planning Session was a renewed commitment to work as a collective, between Council, staff, sector departments and the communities so that we provide quality and sustainable municipal services.

Some of the highlights of the Strategic Planning Session included-

- Urgent need to increase bulk electricity and water capacity to fulfill our economic growth and development needs within the municipality.

- Engaging Vhembe and other relevant institutions to finalize the transfer of the Water Service authority status to Makhado Municipality.
- The Municipality must support LED projects, promote SMME's, support entrepreneurship development in tourism, agriculture and mining within the context of the Special Economic Zone.
- Procure machinery for street grading in villages
- Provide holistic and integrated waste management services in town and rural villages
- Construct a City Hall with multipurpose sports, recreational and retail facilities to attract provincial and national events and businesses
- Promote arts and culture by providing more recreational facilities, community halls, and stadiums in all regions of the municipality.
- Re look at the Town Name Change initiative.
- To effectively utilize the municipal aerodrome for the economic benefit of the municipality.

- **DONATION OF LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SATTELITE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VENDA IN MAKHADO.**

  COUNCIL HAS ALREADY PASSED A RESOLUTION COMMITING TO DONATE LAND TO THE UNIVERSITY OF VENDA. THIS INITIATIVE WILL INCREASE ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY SERVICES AND CREATE MORE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNUITIES FOR THE TOWN AND THE MUNICIPALITY AS A WHOLE.

All Councilors, senior management and traditional leaders participated in the Strategic Planning Session and we all reaffirmed our commitment to the Vision and Mission of the Municipality, which is to become a **"dynamic hub for socio economic development by 2025".**

We have also rededicated ourselves to ensure that Agriculture, Mining and Tourism should be a driving propeller of our local economy.

To realize the Vision and Mission of the Municipality, we boldly reiterated our key strategic objectives which shall measure our actions towards realizing our

Vision of becoming socio economic hub by 2025. We will expand on the strategic objectives as part of the key performance areas of the budget.

Our actions will be integrated and strategically connected to support national legislations and policies and contribute directly to the realization of the Provincial and National Development and Plans.

Madame Speaker

This year's budget is a building block to the previous one and it critically reflects a gradual and progressive leap from last year's budget which was presented amidst the doom and gloom that had gripped all the major economies of the world, including South Africa.

While there is a greater need to remain cautious of global and national economic circumstances, at local government level, we all need to remain vigilant and combat ready to ensure that we remain on the strict and disciplined fiscal path.

We must focus sharply on providing sustainable, accessible, affordable and quality services to our communities, especially benefiting those that remain in the sidelines of economic progress.

Madame Speaker,

This budget address is therefore centered on the aspirations of our communities in the quest for a better life.

Through our municipal Facebook page, we received a message and request from Desmond Khufhis Mukhufhi from Ward 12 who has written and I quote:

"Muwaweni Community Hall is not finished as it does not have facilities like chairs inside and landscaping outside, what is the plan of the municipality and when are you planning to complete it, to be useful to the community . He further says that his village Madazhi, has no name board or signage that directs his relatives, football clubs, and friends visiting the village. They get lost as there is no sign board. **End of quote.**

Another Facebook message came from Rembuluwani Vharembla's Ramadzhadzhi and Rofhiwa Azwimpheleli Motlokwa; they share the same concern about the Vlei to Tshitale road and also a clinic at Mamphagi village.

Madame Speaker,

Our IDP consultations must start at village level and be extended to the ward level so that we build a more inclusive, participatory planning system which is more robust, realistic, people-centered.

Our Integrated Development Plan at the Municipality level must reflect our geo – spatial and political realities which have historically marginalized the majority of our people.

The requests made by this ***Facebookers a***re very specific and clear. Our communities know what their priorities are, our task is to listen and facilitate the implementation of these development priorities in line with resources available for a particular financial year.

We must cooperate and integrate our developmental interventions together with District, provincial and national government in order to qualitatively and maximize the impact in our people's lives within our resource capacity.

Development is about people and therefore the budget must be a reflection of their express wishes and an institutional commitment of resources to address the needs of our people.

I therefore appeal to the **Ward Councilor and the Ward Committee of Ward 12** to propose how we can get the chairs and do the landscaping at the Muwaweni Community Hall.

We must make sure there is signage to the Madadzhi village so that football clubs, relatives and friends of Desmond Khufhis Mukhufhi from Ward 12 do not get lost.

Our Portfolio Head for Technical Services, Cllr Mamafha and the Ward Councillor in the Mamphagi area must formally update **Rembuluwani Vharemblas Ramadzhadzhi and Rofhiwa Azwimpheleli Motlokwa** about the plan of the Provincial Department of Roads and Infra Structure on the tarring of the Vleifontein to Tshitale Road.

Our Portfolio Head for Community Services- Cllr Chililo, and the Ward Councilor in the Maphagi area, must equally communicate with our colleagues from the Department of Health about the need for a clinic at Ha Mamphagi village. This need for a clinic must equally be included in our IDP so that we monitor its planning and implementation stages.

In that way, fellow Councilors, we shall restore the confidence of our people in our local municipality.

Madame Speaker,

Our municipality was affected by the demarcation of municipal boundaries by the Municipal Demarcation Board. As a municipality we shall continue to cooperate with all stakeholders to ensure that our people continue to receive essential services in those affected areas.

We are concerned however that the violence and destruction of public and private properties experienced in some villages will affect us in the medium and long term. We therefore appeal for peace, cooperation and unity while dealing with these new demarcations and provision of essential services.

This reality leads to expectations by community members for a speedy resolution of their needs.

We anticipate to receive R500 000 from the Demarcation Grant which will assist to implement relevant initiatives and projects.

As articulated in our IDP, we will review our Employment, Growth and Local Economic Development Strategies and Plans in line with District, provincial and national development imperatives.

These plans must guide our short term-medium and long term plans, a clear socio economic profile with accurate growth targets, employment targets, and realistic population statistics.

These are critical planning tools to assist us in setting of Specific- Measurable-Achievable – Realistic and Time Framed development objectives, that will in turn be catalytic in the realization of our mission and vision as Makhado Municipality.

Madame Speaker,

As an ANC led Municipality, we have a revolutionary obligation to contribute to the realization of electoral manifesto of the ruling party that identifies key spending priorities, and articulated in the State of the Nation and Province address and budget presentations, respectively, which include:

- **Creation of decent jobs and sustainable livelihoods**
- **Education**
- **Health**
- **Rural development , food security and land reform**
- **The security of our people in the fight against crime and corruption,**

And, investing in effective local governance and adequate human settlement.

As Makhado Municipality, we will continue to collaborate with District, Provincial and National government to ensure that these priorities are translated into programmatic interventions that will make a difference in people's lives.

Madame Speaker,

As Council we acknowledge the work done by the previous Council under the leadership of Cllr Mutavhatsindi F.D

Some of the key Highlights of our ANC led Council during 2015/2016 financial year include the following achievements:

- **Waste management and cleaning services were expanded rural areas in Kutama/Sinthumule areas.**

- **Initiatives to enhance local economic development wherein 6 LED/community based poverty alleviation projects funded**
- **Completion of the roads, electricity and recreation infrastructure services:**
- **Tshikota access road/Pretorius street is upgraded (6.5km)**
- **Magau road phase 2 completed (4.5km)**

- Ledig road completed (6.6km)
- (4.3km) Tshivhazwaulu to Rasivhetshela road phase 1 completed
- Electrification Rabali Stadium facility completed

- **185 households at Wisagalaza 2 & Chitasi village connected.**
- **180 households at Mamburu connected**
- **91 households at Madodonga/Manavhela connected**
- **96 households at Ramahantsha /Riverside connected**
- **93 households connected at Tshiozwi/Gogobole**
- **100 households at Magau connected**
- **Development of 5047 Park is completed**

This and many service delivery reports are well documented in the 2015/2016 Annual Report.

Moving into the future, we would work to ensure that our Strategic Objectives are aligned and consistent with the IDP and our Budget.

1. Good governance and administrative excellence and Investing in human capital

During the next financial year the Department of Corporate and Shared Support Services will receive R4,2 million rands.

Madame Speaker,

Makhado Municipality has functional and vibrant Council. All Council Committees are doing a sterling work to provide critical insight into municipal law making and oversight,

We appreciate the oversight work being done by our Municipal and Public Accounts Committee. We shall finalize the annual roll out plan which shall be approved by Council- outlining key areas of work and intervention by MPAC.

Through your leadership Madame Speaker, our Municipality has democratically elected Ward Committees. These structures are a pillar of our democracy at the lowest level and a participatory model of governance and decision making.

Ward Committees must be a platform for planning and action. It must be a vehicle that, allows inclusive, accountable, transparent involvement of all residents without regard of age, sex, class or any background.

We need to build more capacity of the Ward Committees so that they audit, monitor service delivery and challenges beyond holding monthly meetings.

The involvement of our traditional leaders and their respective Councils in IDP process is a fundamental necessity for democratic rule and guarantee for a successful, sustainable and integrated model of governance.

We are proud to mention that Council has approved a model of separation of powers between the Executive and the Legislative arm. This model is a guarantee that the executive will always be held accountable for its actions and also is a fundamental pillar for effective oversight and democratic governance at local level.

Council will also introduce a paperless system, wherein Councilors will receive digital Council documents. This will save the Municipality millions of rands per year for printing and stationery costs.

Madame Speaker,

We appreciate the participation of **Misanda and Tihosi** in our Council meetings. Your leadership is a cornerstone to our democratic and developmental local government.

Our Public Participation Officers must also be trained to ensure that Ward Committee Reports are analyzed and interventions strategies identified so that we fast track and sustain service delivery. We have to build more capacity in our Regional Offices so that service delivery can take place closer to where our communities are found.

Through our IDP Consultation meetings we will continue to boldly assert our commitment to ensure that the people are involved in all aspects of planning, resources allocation, monitoring and evaluation of service delivery in our municipality.

We appeal to our Ward Councilors and Ward Committees to ensure that they effectively, timely and consistently report to all communities about projects and programmes of government as contained in the IDP.

Communities deserve to know what we are able to deliver, the challenges we are facing in delivering of projects and programmes and also the plans we have in place to unblock projects.

We shall continue to host Public Participation meetings **(imbizos) and Feedback sessions** to report on service delivery while creating platforms for dialogue, interaction and

Our special programmes which includes sports, arts and culture, youth, women, children, people with disabilities, moral regeneration and especially HIV/AIDS will receive R800 000.00.

Madame Speaker,

We must gradually increase this vote so that we can impact in the lives of the most vulnerable in our society.

We have recently met with the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, and discussed a partnership to set up a Self Help Project to manufacture Sanitary Pads for girls in schools.

We are already working with the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund through its Sexual Violence in Schools (SEVISSA) program, of which they have invested more than 20 million rands in the Vhembe District and R1,5 million in our municipality.

The proposed project will create work opportunities for more than 20 unemployed young women in the Ward 25 and 26. The project will intensely raise awareness on sex and sexuality issues and also contribute in the restoration of confidence amongst girl children in schools.

Madame Speaker,

We have a functional and active Council Committees for all the above special programs including the Technical and Local AIDS Council. We are working very closely with the Department of Health and other sector departments to compile reports, share experiences on how we can combat the scourge of HIV and AIDS.

The Mayor is the Chairperson of the Local AIDS Council and the Municipal Manager is the Chairperson of the Technical AIDS Committee. This is our commitment to ensure that these issues receive the highest and urgent attention.

We shall allocate R800 000 for bursaries, this is a program to assist needy and desiring students who pass matric and require financial assistance.

Our bursary committee appointed by Councils is responsible to make sure that we adhere to our strategic skills priorities. We must steadily increase the allocation for this vote to ensure that many students in Makhado benefit from the Bursary scheme.

As the Municipality, we shall continue to support our employees through awareness, training and other skills development activities and through our comprehensive Employee Assistance Program.

Madame Speaker,

Makhado is amongst few Municipalities that budget for its employees to participate in local, national and international sporting activities involving municipal employees.

A budget of R1 335 855.00 has been allocated for employees wellness and support programme.

We value the solid and coordinating role played by all the stakeholders involved in the Local Labour Forum- particularly **our labour unions herein SAMWU and IMATU.**

As a Municipality we have a duty that to combat and uproot all forms of corruption and mismanagement of municipal resources, including the misuse of Council property. Management must ensure that all employees adhere to municipal policies, conditions of employment and most importantly to support our employee for being in the forefront of service delivery.

3. Promote community and environmental welfare

During the next financial year, the Department of Community Services will receive R2, 3 million rands.

Disaster- our disaster relief efforts and programme will receive a budget of **R500 000.** Our disaster program will be linked to that of the District so that we give effect to the newly adopted Disaster Management Act.

Waste Management

The development of the new landfill site is at the final stage and it is planned to start operating as from the 1st of July 2017. During 2017/18 financial year, there is a budget allocation of R2 196 000.00 to construct the second waste disposal cell.

We have appointed the recycling company, and it has created 53 employment opportunities to local communities through recycling.

Council has adopted an Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP). The plan was developed internally by our own staff thereby cutting costs of Consultants- an estimated R800 000 was saved by the Municipality.

During 2015/2016 we have appointed 120 EPWP project workers which imply that we have created job opportunities to 120 beneficiaries.

Madame Speaker,

For 2017/18 financial year we have registered the total number of 300 EPWP beneficiaries with the Department of Public Works.

To fast-track the service delivery, especially the reduction waste collection back log, we have purchased a TLB- waiting for delivery which will be used in the clearing of illegal dumps especially used disposable nappies.

The tender for purchasing the skip-loader truck has been advertised and the truck will assist in the delivery of skips to villages where communities will be using them as waste referral/ drop-off points,.

4. Advance Spatial Planning and Invest in local economy

During the next financial year, the Department of Planning and Development will receive R2, 3 million rands.

Our Municipality is a step ahead in the implementation of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, or SPLUMA. We have appointed a Local Tribunal and an Appeals Committee to ensure that land use applications are processed quickly and diligently in line with the prescripts of the law.

We do not want delay in the processing of rezoning, sub divisions and other land use applications. A delay in approving building plans is a delay in attracting investment.

We have a duty to fully take advantage of the approved Special Economic Zone. As Makhado we shall continue to participate in the Musina/Makhado Development Corridor Forum, coordinated by the Office of the Premier.

Madame Speaker,

We want our business associations, business leaders and emerging entrepreneurs to take advantage of the forthcoming developments and opportunities of being in a Special Economic Zone corridor.

We appreciate the progress made by Coal of Africa, in their effort to kick-start with their coal mine in our municipality. We have committed to provide space for their project office so that we accommodate their personnel. The mining project will create more than 3000 work opportunities.

We also appreciate the progress made by other mining houses in our municipal area to acquire rights and to do mining in our area. This will assist us to =create more jobs and opportunities.

We must continue to support and build on other short to medium public and private programmes like the Community Works Program, EPWP, establishment of cooperatives and SMME's in the tourism and agriculture; sectors.

Madame Speaker,

The relocation of sports facilities at the present Rugby fields would commence this year to pave a way for the extension of Makhado Crossing Mall.

As a Municipality we must work closely with the Department of Agriculture to develop and implement a local agricultural support program, so that out livestock and crops farmers can benefit from many skills and funding support programmes offered by the Department.

We call upon the Limpopo Development Agency to strengthen and supports its local office so that it has the capacity offer the needed business support services like business plans, company registration, funding through the Cooperatives Incentive Scheme and many other support programmes.

We must collaborate with the Department of Tourism and the Limpopo Tourism Agency so that we have a plan to maximise on tourism opportunities within our municipalities.

We must support our local hotels, guest houses, game farms, tour guides, and other tourism enterprises so that they grow and contribute to our local economic development goals.

Madame Speaker, COGHSTA has allocated a total 800 housing units to the Municipality for the 2017/2018 financial years.

5. Accessible basic and infrastructure services

Madame Speaker,

During the next financial year, the Department of Technical Services will receive R149 million rands.

5.1 ELECTRICITY

Due to almost 50% shortfall in grant funding for electrification projects from the Integrated National Electrification Program (INEP) by the Department of Energy, the Municipal plans to electrify more household during the 2017/2018 financial year, will be negatively affected.

We are determined to ensure that all households in our Municipality have access to electricity.

A total of 909 households will be electrified by ESKOM and Makhado Municipality in the following villages:

Name of village	**Number of households**
Madabani Village Phase 2	67
Rathidili village Phase 2	628
Mavhunga-Muromani village Phase 2	160
Maname Paradise Phase 2	54

During 2017/2018 the design of MV Line and the electrification of Songozwi village will be implemented with a budget of R1, 5 million.

Madame Speaker,

I am happy to announce that it will be for the first time that Songozwi village will receive electricity connections for the first time since 1994.

We shall also upgrade bulk electricity supply capacity at the Makhado Main Station. The substation will be upgraded from 44 MVA to 66 MVA.

A total of R25 million rands will be spent on the projects I mentioned above.

A further 814 connections will be implemented by ESKOM in the **Esdras/Mingard village, Siloam Extention, Muhovhoya Extension,**

Muungamunwe Phase 2, Raliphaswa village. This electrification project will cost R13, 2 million rands.

In the coming year, Makhado Municipality will implement 334 household through in fill or post electrical connections in **Pfumembe, Tshitwi, Afton, Sane, Straighthardt, Maranikwe, Doli-Doli, Smokey, Divhani, Posaito, Ngundu, Khomele, Khunda, Matshavhawe and Ramahantsha** at a cost of R3 million rands.

So, in total Madame Speaker, a total number of 2057 households will receive electricity connections during 2017/18 financial year.

Madame Speaker,

As a Municipality, we have experienced the impact of how lack of bulk electricity capacity can block residential and industrial development, which in turn affects the growth of our local economy and directly hamper job creation and investment attraction.

My office will soon convene a panel of experts from private sector/parastatals and other model municipalities in a roundtable working session to freely advise the Mayor and Council on best and available options to increase our bulk capacity.

We cannot afford to loose more investments in our town and municipal area because we do not have bulk electricity capacity.

We cannot be a socio economic hub without electricity. We shall loose opportunities presented by the approved Special Economic Zone status granted by the Department of Trade and Industry to Musina and Makhado.

5.2 Water and Sanitation

Madame Speaker,

Water remains a matter of life and death. Without water we can never achieve human and economic progress.

We remain concerned that the Water Service Authority is still with the District Municipality at the expense of our immediate communities. We shall continue

to work with the Vhembe District and other government authorities to find long term solution to the household and bulk water supply challenge in the municipal area.

This reality directly affects out our growth as a town and a municipality. Industries require bulk water, malls and shopping centres, manufacturing factories cannot be set up in Makhado without guarantees of bulk water.

This in turn affects job creation and our efforts to fight against poverty and crime. Household water supply is also compromised due to unexpected pipe breakages, leaks and other maintenance problems.

Illegal water connections remain a major challenge and affect all of us. We must deal decisively with these criminal elements compromise community welfare for their narrow interests.

Our ability to respond during water shortages and to communicate such breakages with our communities needs to be looked into.

The Nandoni bulk water supply system will go a long way to address some of these challenges.

We still rely on the District Municipality to allocate budget and units for sanitation. We have made tremendous progress to ensure that our people have increased access to proper sanitation, especially in rural villages. We still have a long way to go.

5.3 ROADS AND INFRA STRUCTURE

Other capital and labour intensive projects to be implemented during the next year are the following:

PROJECTS	DESCRIPTION	2017/2018
01	Sereni Themba to Mashamba post office access road 3	R16,693,775.00
02	Landfill site makhado	R2,196,000.00
03	Tshikwarani to Zamkomste Road	R13,000,000.00
04	Tshedza to Vuvha Access road.	

		R14,000,000.00
05	Mbhokota ,Gombita,Tshivhuyuni to Mphagi Road phase 2	R14,000,000.00
06	Valdezia access road phase 2	R14,000,000.00
07	Fencing of Makhado municipality cemetery	R1,000,000.00
08	Mudimeli Bridge and Access Road	R10,000,000.00
10	Access Road to New Landfill Site	R500,000.00
11	Erf 210 Burger Street market revitalization project	R500,000.00
12	Waterval Region refuse Transfer Station	R1,000,000.00
13	Erection of 8 High Masts	R2,000,000.00
	TOTAL	**88,889,775.00**

We have received very clear calls by the communities of Eltivillas, Newtown and Makhado Park on specific service delivery concerns that they have. This includes debushing of areas with high bushes, potholes in the town, water quality and supply shortages, billing problems, entrance and exit roads in town, ramps and speed humps and the high level of crime.

We have received a clear request from the Makhado Sector Policing Forum that we install Cameras in the town, so that we can digitally monitor our streets for any criminal activities and policing interventions.

This and many service delivery issues will be given the attention and priority they deserve.

The Acting Municipal Manager, Director and Portfolio Head for Technical Services will develop an action plan with time frames of when are going to address this challenges.

6. Sound Financial Management and viability

Madame Speaker,

We anticipate to collect own revenue projected at R49 million rands during 2017/2018 financial year.

We will continue to find ways of enhancing our revenue collection strategy and the municipality will reduce costs and efficiency by sending account statements to our clients through emails.

We urge all our suppliers to register their companies with the Central Supplier Database at the National Treasury, enabling them to continue conducting business with the Municipality.

During the next financial year, the Department of Budget and Treasury will receive R4, 3 million rands.

The Municipality will procure a fleet of vehicles including Graders and LDV vehicles to enable us to provide quality services to all communities.

Internal Audit

Madam Speaker 2015/16 financial year was the year when the previous Council achieved its second consecutive qualified audit opinion from the Auditor-General. The 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years were also the years that the municipality received qualified audit opinion with matters of emphasis.

However, The Municipality is determined to achieve a better audit opinion which is Unqualified Opinion or Clean Audit through the commitments of Acting Municipal Manager, Directors, Internal Audit, AG and entire Managers.

Madam Speaker allow me to also highlight that we have a very effective Audit Performance and Audit Committee which is chaired by Dr J Zaaiman.

The Municipality has developed an action plan to mitigate the issues raised by Auditor-General and there is adequate mechanism to ensure that the financial systems are Standard Charts of Account (SCOA) compliant by 2017/18 financial year.

Risk Management

Madam Speaker a lot of progress has been done with respect of enterprise risk management for example the establishment of a Risk Management Office, Risk and Anti-fraud & corruption Committee which is chaired by an independent external person **[Mr LS Mofokeng]** to ensure transparency.

It is evident that the Committee is working efficiently, e.g. the risk management strategy/risk register of the municipality which is aligned to the IDP objectives was presented and noted by Council.

The risk management strategy will ensure that the municipality receive early warning signs on service delivery issues, fraud and corruption activities. We have a HOTLINE dedicated to enable members of the public to blow the whistle on all forms of fraud and corruption.

Indigents are being processed afresh. Only new applicants, who applied as from April 2017, will receive their free units. All old indigents have been nullified. New qualified applicants will run for a period of two years compliant to Council Policy.

We therefore call upon our Ward Committees and Community Development Workers, including Public Participation Officers to ensure that all deserving and qualifying residents are enrolled on the Indigent Register.

7. Conclusion

Let me take this opportunity to thank each one of you attending this profound gathering, and all of us must know that **what appears today to be a sacrifice will prove instead to be the greatest investment in our shared future.**

I specifically want to hail the unwavering support demonstrated by Khosikhulu Vho Toni Mphephu, and all our Misanda na Tihosi in deepening democracy. Your unselfish, noble wisdom and leadership, which is radiant in all our efforts to fight against poverty and underdevelopment is highly appreciated.

I would like to thank all members of Ward Committees, NGO's and CBO's, leaders of our community structures for their patriotic service to all our people.

I want to extend a special thank you to all the members of the Audit Committee and Oversight Committees, for their courageous determination and leadership demonstrated to ensure that we remain accountable and focused on our developmental goals.

Poverty/unemployment/HIV/AIDS/crime/alcohol and drug abuse is everyone's problem. It cuts across any line you can name: age, race, social, geographic or religious. Whether you are black or white; rich, middle-class or poor, we are ALL touched by poverty.

The test we must set for ourselves is not to march alone but to march in such a way that others will wish to join us so that we combat all social and economic injustices.

Comradely' salute to all members and leadership of the ANC, SACP, SANCO and COSATU and other political parties for their revolutionary support.

Lastly, I want to thank all my colleagues, Councillors, members of the Executive Committee, leaders of Portfolio Committees, the executive and administrative management and all staff of Makhado Municipality, for your continued and selfless support towards a better life for all our people.

I express my sincere thanks to the Events Committee, for exceptional organising skills.

I sincerely want to thank the Acting Municipal, Manager for your sterling and decisive management abilities. You are managing a vast and complex institution supported by team of experienced Directors and Managers- who are helping us as Council to deliver on out electoral and political mandates. Your patriotic service to the institution will be recorded as a contribution to our shared destiny.

I specifically want to thank the MADAME SPEAKER for your grand and exclusive leadership qualities. I also want to thank the Chief Whip for providing sound

leadership and being part of the Political Management Team of such a great municipality.

I also want to thank my family and friends, pastors, elders and all those who continue to be a pillar of my personal, spiritual and emotional strength, intelligence and wisdom.

End

Office of the Mayor- Cllr S.M Sinyosi

2017